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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/719,396	11/21/2003	James J. Spence	D/A3213	2562

25453 7590 09/20/2006

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EXAMINER

MORRISON, THOMAS A

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

3653

DATE MAILED: 09/20/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

DETAILED ACTION

1. The timely submission under 37 CFR 1.129(a) filed on 8/29/2006 is not fully responsive to the prior Office action because (1) the text and the changes to the claims in the 8/29/2006 amendment do not match up with the text of the claims in the latest entered amendment (i.e., applicant's amendment of 2/6/2006), and (2) each of the claims has not been provided with a proper status identifier, as explained in greater detail below. Since the submission appears to be a *bona fide* attempt to provide a complete reply to the prior Office action, applicant is given a shortened statutory period of ONE MONTH or THIRTY DAYS from the mailing date of this letter, whichever is longer, to submit a complete reply. This shortened statutory period supersedes the time period set in the prior Office action. This time period may be extended pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a). If a notice of appeal and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) were filed prior to or with the payment of the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(r), the payment of the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(r) by applicant is construed as a request to dismiss the appeal and to continue prosecution under 37 CFR 1.129(a). The appeal stands dismissed.

In particular, the changes and the text of the claims in applicant's amendment of 8/29/2006 do not match up with the text of the claims in the latest entered amendment (i.e., applicant's amendment of 2/6/2006). Applicant's amendments of 5/19/2006, 6/23/2006 and 8/29/2006 have not been entered, because they were non-compliant.

As one example, in claim 17 of the 8/29/2006 amendment, limitations have been added to the recited "a belt module", as compared to the recited "a belt module" in claim

17 of the 2/6/2006 amendment. However, these new limitations are not underlined in the 8/29/2006 amendment.

As another example, the recitation, "being made of a selected electrically non-conductive material having a density that is less than a density of said first layer, and" is underlined in claim 17 of the 8/29/2006 amendment, but this change was already entered in the 2/6/2006 amendment. Thus, this limitation should not be underlined. Applicant should refer to the latest entered amendment (i.e., applicant's amendment of 2/6/2006) and base any changes to the claims on the claims as set forth in the 2/6/2006 amendment.

Also, claims 21-30 were not included in the 2/6/2006 amendment. Rather, these claims were added in the 8/29/2006 amendment. Thus, claims 21-30 should have "new" status identifiers and no amendments thereto. However, claims 21-30 in the 8/29/2006 amendment have "Previously presented" or "Currently amended" status identifiers. Thus each claim has not been provided with a proper status identifier.

Conclusion


2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thomas A. Morrison whose telephone number is (571) 272-7221. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 8am - 5pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Patrick Mackey can be reached on (571) 272-6916. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 3653

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

09/08/2006



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